GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5628
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000
RELIEF TO POOR FOR TREATMENT OF DISEASES
P.R. KHUTE;PUNNULAL MOHALE

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provide adequate amount to the poor for the treatment of Cancer, heart and other diseases;

(b) if so, whether the amount is sufficient keeping in view the rising of prices;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard;

(d) if not, whether the Government process to increase the amount; and

(e) if so, the details thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)to(e) Financial assistance upto Rs.1.5 lakhs in an individual case is available under the Illness Assistance Fund set up by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. Cases requiring financial assistance exceeding Rs.1.5 lakhs can be forwarded by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to the National Illness Assistance Fund set up in this Ministry.The amount available to the patients under the Scheme is sufficient to meet expenditure on the treatment of Cancer, heart and other diseases.
Besides, financial assistance upto Rs.20,000/- in each case is available to the poor and needy patients out of Health Minister`s Discretionary Grant to meet a part of expenditure on their medical specialised treatment/surgical interventions. The limit of financial assistance under Health Minister`s Discretionary Grant is not proposed to be enhanced due to financial constraints.